

**AMENDMENTS**

**In the Claims:**

1-21. (cancelled)

22. (currently amended)

A method for improving the performance of an electrophoretic display which comprises:

- (a) at least one electrode layer,
- (b) at least one display cell which is filled with an electrophoretic fluid, and
- (c) at least one electrode protecting layer which is present between the electrophoretic fluid and the electrode layer and has a volume resistivity of about  $10^7$  to about  $10^{10}$  ohm cm;

the method comprises forming said electrode protecting layer from a composition comprising an electrode protecting layer forming material and adding a conductive filler in the form of nanoparticles and having a volume resistivity of less than about  $10^4$  ohm cm ~~into a composition for the formation of the electrode protecting layer.~~

23. (currently amended)

The method of Claim 22 wherein said volume resistivity of said conductive filler is about  $10^2$  to about  $10^3$  ohm cm.

24. (original)

The method of Claim 22 wherein the conductive filler has an average primary particle size which is smaller than the range of UV-visible scattering light.

25. (original)

The method of Claim 22 wherein the conductive filler has an average primary particle size in the range of about 5 to about 150 nanometer.

26. (original)

The method of Claim 25 wherein the conductive filler has an average primary particle size in the range of about 10 to about 50 nanometer.

27. (original)

The method of Claim 26 wherein the conductive filler has an average primary particle size in the range of about 15 to about 20 nanometer.

28. (original)

The method of Claim 22 wherein the conductive filler is selected from the group consisting of conductive metal oxide particles, carbon black, graphite, carbon nanotube, conductive polymers, metal particles or flakes and conductive nanoclusters.

29. (withdrawn-previously presented)

The method of Claim 28 wherein said conductive polymer is polythiophene, polyacetylene, polypyrrole or polyaniline.

30. (withdrawn-previously presented)

The method of Claim 28 wherein said metal particles or flakes are silver particles or flakes.

31. (withdrawn-previously presented)

The method of Claim 28 wherein said conductive nanoclusters are Au or Cu nanoclusters.

32. (withdrawn)

The method of Claim 22 wherein said conductive filler is zinc antimonate, zinc sulfide, indium tin oxide or antimony tin oxide.

33-54. (cancelled)

55. (currently amended)

An electrophoretic display which comprises

- (a) at least one electrode layer,
- (b) at least one display cell which is filled with an electrophoretic fluid, and
- (c) at least one electrode protecting layer, which is present between the

electrophoretic fluid and the electrode layer and has a volume resistivity of about  $10^7$  to about  $10^{10}$  ohm cm, and is formed from a composition comprising an electrode protecting layer forming material and a conductive filler, wherein the conductive filler is in the form of nanoparticles and has a volume resistivity of less than about  $10^4$  ohm cm.

56. (previously presented)

The electrophoretic display of Claim 55 wherein said electrode protecting layer is a primer layer and said electrode protecting layer forming material is a thermoplastic, thermoset or a precursor thereof.

57. (previously presented)

The electrophoretic display of Claim 55 wherein the conductive filler has the volume resistivity  $10^2$  to about  $10^3$  ohm cm.

58. (cancelled)

59. (previously presented)

The electrophoretic display of Claim 55 wherein the conductive filler has an average primary particle size which is smaller than the range of UV-visible scattering light.

60. (previously presented)

The electrophoretic display of Claim 55 wherein the conductive filler particles do not absorb light in the range of about 300 to about 700 nm.

61. (previously presented)

The electrophoretic display of Claim 55 wherein the conductive filler has an average primary particle size in the range of about 5 to about 150 nanometer.

62. (previously presented)

The electrophoretic display of Claim 61 wherein the conductive filler has an average primary particle size in the range of about 10 to about 50 nanometer.

63. (previously presented)

The electrophoretic display of Claim 62 wherein the conductive filler has an average primary particle size in the range of about 15 to about 20 nanometer.

64. (previously presented)

The electrophoretic display of Claim 55 wherein the conductive filler is selected from the group consisting of conductive metal oxide particles, carbon black, graphite, carbon nanotube, conductive polymers, metal particles or flakes and conductive nanoclusters.

65. (previously presented)

The electrophoretic display of Claim 64 wherein said conductive polymer is polythiophene, polyacetylene, polypyrrole or polyaniline.

66. (previously presented)

The electrophoretic display of Claim 64 wherein the metal particles or flakes are silver particles or flakes.

67. (previously presented)

The electrophoretic display of Claim 64 wherein the conductive nanoclusters are Au or Cu nanoclusters.

68. (previously presented)

The electrophoretic display of Claim 55 wherein said conductive filler is zinc antimonate, zinc sulfide, indium tin oxide or antimony tin oxide.

69. (previously presented)

The electrophoretic display of Claim 55 wherein said conductive filler is in a sol gel form.

70. (previously presented)

The electrophoretic display of Claim 69 wherein said sol gel comprises a solvent.

71. (previously presented)

The electrophoretic display of Claim 70 wherein said solvent is 2-butanone, acetone or isopropanol.

72. (previously presented)

The electrophoretic display of Claim 55 wherein said conductive filler is colorless and highly transparent.

73. (previously presented)

The electrophoretic display of Claim 72 wherein said conductive filler has about 75% to about 95% transmission in the visible light range for a 20  $\mu\text{m}$  dried film containing about 30% by weight of the conductive filler.

74. (previously presented)

The electrophoretic display of Claim 73 wherein said conductive filler has about 85% to about 90% transmission in the visible light range for a 20  $\mu\text{m}$  dried film containing about 30% by weight of the conductive filler.

75. (previously presented)

The electrophoretic display of Claim 55 wherein said conductive filler is zinc antimonate colloidal nanoparticles.

76. (previously presented)

The electrophoretic display of Claim 55 wherein said conductive filler has a concentration in the range of about 0.01 % to about 50% by weight of the total solid content.

76. (previously presented)

The electrophoretic display of Claim 76 wherein said conductive filler has a concentration in the range of about 15% to about 45% by weight of the total solid content.